

CompassLearning Odyssey Innovations for 2011 Common Core Standards Alignment

Simply Better.

A curriculum fully aligned to Common Core standards

CompassLearning Odyssey is fully aligned to the Common Core standards to support educators in the 43 states and territories that have adopted those standards.

Extended offerings for depth and rigor

CompassLearning Odyssey® 2011 also will offer 151 new Flash activities — 67 in mathematics and 84 in English language arts — as well as 70 math quizzes, 84 English language arts quizzes, and 10 Odyssey Writer activities. These elements are designed to help students in grades K–5 master the deeper, more rigorous Common Core standards. Additionally, for a complete assess-prescribe-instruct-report Common Core solution, Odyssey curricula and assessments are fully aligned to the Common Core standards.

Forward-thinking design for today's learners

CompassLearning crafted the new courses using the most recent research-based instructional strategies, including:

- ▶ Planning the curriculum from desired student outcomes (backward design)
- ▶ Maintaining students' interest and aiding information retention with real-world examples and practice (real-world application)
- ▶ Teaching students at the core of support and growth to maximize achievement (zone of proximal development, scaffolding)
- ▶ 21st century skills development with technological interface look and feel

Rigorous activities support challenging standards.



English language arts activities also include supports for rigorous learning:

- ▶ Interdisciplinary content with science and social studies
- ▶ Using challenging, level-appropriate vocabulary (robust language)
- ▶ Having students try to discover new information, in addition to direct instruction (inquiry-based learning)
- ▶ Different levels of support within a single concept (multi-tiered scaffolding)
- ▶ Integrating skills and concepts with thematic content
- ▶ Exposure to authentic text and practice using National Geographic Kids® (authentic practice)
- ▶ Reading comprehension strategies (metacognitive skills)

Common Core standards for English language arts and reading include advanced literacy topics.



Based on how children learn number operations (cognitively guided instruction), as well as the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics' Principles and Standards for Teaching Mathematics and the 5E instructional model, mathematics activities develop a deep understanding of concepts by:

- ▶ Moving from concrete to abstract
- ▶ Fostering understanding of *why*, not just *how*
- ▶ Providing multiple representations and real-world examples
- ▶ Using virtual manipulatives
- ▶ Modeling mathematical reasoning

Common Core standards introduce concepts at earlier ages, so CompassLearning uses educational techniques that ensure comprehension and retention of those concepts.



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